

Professional nursing roles and values

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Professional nursing roles and values involves providing care that meets the changing individual, family and community health requirements. Professional nursing enables the nurses to offer competent, ethical, culturally, holistic and community-based collaborative care.

Professional nursing roles and values are based on innovation in nursing clinical practices, programs and technology through collaborative decision-making process and research (Nixon, 2013).

Functional differences between a regulatory agency and professional nursing organization

Regulatory agencies such as board of nursing are responsible in regulating the nursing professional, drafting laws, approving nursing practice licensure as well as governing the entire nursing care levels. The regulatory agencies ensure that the patients are protected and they receive quality care. However, professional nurse organizations are made up of groups of professional nurses with a common purpose of getting educated, share professional information, benchmark and oversee the overall advancement of the profession and the patients the nurses are supposed to serve. Therefore, the professional nurse organizations help in strengthening the voice of the nurses in advocating for the well being of the patients (Texas Board of Nursing, 2013).

The state regulates the nursing profession through the use of regulatory agencies such as board of nursing which is mandated to draft the Nurse Practice Act aimed at governing the scope of the practice for all nursing profession levels. All professional nurses have well defined roles

according to the Nurse Practice Act in relation to the type of setting and the educational levels requirements. The aim of the regulatory agency is to protect the patients from unqualified nursing practices through imposing stringent rules and regulations. The mission of the board of nursing is to protect the member of the public through carrying out the applicable statutes contained in the Occupations Code and introduction of rules in the Administrative Code. However, the board has no mandate to draft legislation and the board members are not supposed to support or oppose any proposed bill during a legislative session. The members and the staff are restricted from any form of lobbying for legislation of any bill aimed at amending the Nursing Practice Act that may impact nursing professional in any manner. The agency is responsible in administering the law that governs the nursing profession, practice and education. The agency also upholds the minimum educational standards for nursing programs, licenses individual qualified nurses and educates professional nurses in regard to the changing laws. The agency also investigates alleged nursing professional violations and takes appropriate disciplinary actions to the nurses who violate the agency's rules, statutes and policies (Texas Board of Nursing, 2013).

On the other hand, professional nursing organizations are made up of registered nurse members who submit dues in order to enjoy the benefits. The professional nursing organizations act as representatives to the members in terms of political, legislation as well as matters of practice. The organizations give the members a common voice of its nurse membership through lobbying the legislature in the interest of the members in the nursing profession. The organizations provide forms a common voice for the nursing profession issues that are crucial to specific areas of the nursing practice and the entire nursing profession. The organization provides

professional leadership in various areas such as improving working conditions and a nursing association and leads the way in advancing public health policies (Texas Board of Nursing, 2013).

The regulatory agencies and the professional nursing organizations play crucial roles in nursing. The nursing organizations' mandate is to represent the members in the nursing profession while the nursing agencies aims at serving the public through ensuring that professional licensed nurses meet the minimum required standards to practice safely. The agencies help the nurses to establish and adhere to the required standards through legislation of laws (Texas Board of Nursing, 2013).

American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics provisions

The American Nurses Association is an organization whose role is to represent the interest of all professional registered nurses in USA. The body ensures that the overall health care quality is improved in the United States of America. ANA is responsible for drafting ethical codes to guide the nursing profession to deal with perplexing situations that may arise in the practice.

The American Nurses Association has set nine provisions in the Code of Ethics for Nurses. The first provision states that "The nurses practice with compassion and respect for inherent dignity, worth and unique attributes of every person" (American Nurses Association, 2017). The second provision states that "The nurse's primary commitment is to the patient, and whether an individual, family, group, community or population" (American Nurses Association, 2017).

The first provision requires that the nurse must practice the profession with compassion and respect with regard to dignity, worth and unique characteristics of all patients. The provision influences my professional nursing practice in that it helps professional nurses to respect the human dignity and helps in understanding the nature of health. The provision also helps me as a professional nurse to develop a positive relationship with the patients and helps me develop right to self-determination and develop a positive relationship with colleagues and other professionals in the nursing profession. Therefore, the provision has helped me develop a positive relationship with my fellow nurses and establish a good relationship with the patients in achieving positive clinical achievements in the nursing profession (American Nurses Association, 2017).

The second provision states that the major commitment of a professional nurse is the patient as an individual, family group and the community. The provision has influenced my professional nursing practice in that I have been able to prioritize the interests of a patient and work closely in collaboration with my fellow professionals, patient and the family in order to get positive clinical results. The provision also helps in dealing with conflict of interest for nurses in the profession and has also helped create professional boundaries which guide me as a professional nurse in order to achieve positive clinical results (American Nurses Association, 2017).

Professional traits from the ANA Code of Ethics provisions

The American Nurses Association Code of Ethics helps in developing professional traits among the nurses. According to the ANA Code of Ethics, the nurses are supposed to be

compassionate, respecting, calm under pressure and poses good communication skills (Nebraska Methodist College, 2015).

As a professional nurse, it is necessary to be compassionate in order to effectively work as a interdisciplinary team of health care professionals. It is necessary to have deep concern and sympathize with the sufferings of a patient without judging the patients. Being compassionate helps in lessening the suffering of the patients and this helps the interdisciplinary team to offer effective medical interventions in crucial medical situations (Nebraska Methodist College, 2015).

Respect is very crucial in nursing professional as the patients are worried about their health conditions. The patients are anxious about their health conditions and the condition may upset them and this means that a professional nurse has to respect the views of the patient. Therefore, the nurses should help the patients maintain their dignity throughout the time they are under the care of professional nurses. The nurses should be honest and communicate with the patients openly through behaving fairly and ethically in all circumstances (Nebraska Methodist College, 2015).

The nurses are also required to be calm when working under pressure and make quick medical decisions. The nurses need to make calm and rational decisions irrespective of the high stress they face and this helps them offer timely and effective clinical interventions (Nebraska Methodist College, 2015).

The nurses also need to relate with the patients positively through proper communication which helps the patients understand their medical conditions. Therefore, nurses should clearly communicate and listen to the needs of the patients and this helps the interdisciplinary team of

health care professionals acknowledge the patient's concern (Nebraska Methodist College, 2015).

Nursing theory

There exist various nursing theories that govern the nursing practice based on work ethics, behavior and treatment of patients. One of the common nursing theories is the self-care deficit nursing theory which states that the vision of health is characterized by wholeness of developed human structures as well as bodily and mental functioning of an individual. The health of an individual encompasses psychological needs, physical needs, interpersonal needs and social aspects. The theory was developed by Dorothea E. Orem who made an assumption that people should be self-reliant and responsible for their own care as well as the care of other members of the family. An individuals' knowledge about potential health issues is crucial in enhancing self-care behaviors. Therefore, nursing is an art, helping service and a technology. The theory entails three self-care requisites namely; firstly the universal self-care. Secondly the developmental self-care requisites such as maturation and curbing against harmful effects in development. Third is the health deviation requisite which comprises of the needs that emerge in relation to the condition of the patient (University of St. Mary, 2017).

The theory fits in my nursing profession in that it can be applied in various nursing situations and patients. Therefore, the theory's principles and concepts are general and can be easily applied in different settings and the nurses and patients can work closely in order to provide the best possible care.

Historical nursing figure

Over a long period of time, nursing profession did not receive the recognition it deserves in the community and the community perceived nurses role as being insignificant in health care provision. The community viewed the nursing profession as an undesirable and illegitimate career and the perception started to change as the medicine field advanced in the twentieth century. However, the role of the nurses in the community is very vital in the society and one of the historical nursing figures is Florence Nightingale.

Florence was born in 1820 and developed interest in nursing she was trained in Germany and worked in a London hospital. After the break of the Crimean War, she was mandated to train and oversee a team of nurses who were designated to provide care to injured soldiers in the military hospitals in Turkey. However, after the War, she started the Nightingale Training School for Nurses at St. Thomas' Hospital in London and the nurses trained in the college served in the hospitals across Britain. During her reign, she developed theories on nursing training in 1860 and they became very influential in the nursing profession. Her contribution to sanitation, military health and hospital planning helped in setting place the modern practices that are applied in hospital care today (SBB College, 2017).

Therefore, her contribution to the nursing field has enabled my profession in nursing in that I have been able to make decisions about the best care to provide to the patients. Her contribution has also helped me develop and enhance the best hospital settings that fit both the nurses and the patients in order to provide the best care possible in the modern hospital setting.

Justice and respect for autonomy principles for the patient

Autonomy and justice are among the basic principles of medical ethics that helps in evaluating the merits and difficulties of various medical procedures. The principle of autonomy requires that a patient should have autonomy of thought, decision, and personal actions in regard to any health care procedure. This means that a patient should make a decision independently without coercion. However, for a patient to make a fully informed decision, one must understand the benefits and risks involved in any procedure and the possibility of success. As a professional nurse, I applied the principle of autonomy when I was about to start chemotherapy process for a cancer patient and had to let the patient to make independent decision about the process (McCormick, 2013).

The justice principle involves equal distribution of the burden and benefits resulting from experimental treatments in the society. The experimental procedure must not violate the existing laws and must be fair to all parties involved in the process. As a professional nurse, when experimenting about new reproductive technology in Africa, I considered a fair distribution of the scarce resources, rights and obligations of all the involved parties, competing needs of the society and potential sources of conflict with the established legislation. Therefore, as a professional nurse, I considered the ethical dilemma as the treatment was available equally to all people (McCormick, 2013).

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